

## DECLARES FULTON WRONGLY HONORED

Southerner Says James Rumsey Steamed on Potomac In 1787.

Robert Fulton's honors as the first American to apply successfully the principle of steam to navigation are vigorously disputed by John Moray, of Berkeley Springs, W. Va., who, in a letter to Andrew Carnegie, the ironmaster, not only declares the claims of historians giving this distinction to Fulton as "perversions of historic truth," but asserts that James Rumsey, a native of Maryland and a gifted mechanical engineer of post-Revolutionary times, was the inventor of the steamboat.

The great honors which will be paid the name of Robert Fulton in the coming Hudson-Fulton celebration, therefore, belong to Rumsey, according to Mr. Carnegie's correspondent, who gives 1787 as the year when the steamboat was first given to the world to revolutionize its mode of water navigation, instead of 1807, the year that history accords Fulton of having successfully demonstrated his steamboat. Moreover, to the Potomac, and not the Hudson, belongs the distinction of having been the first river upon which a steamboat was navigated in this country.

Says Credit Is Wrongly Given. Mr. Moray asserts that Robert Livingston, of New York, Fulton's friend and benefactor, in being the one largely responsible for the honors that have come to Fulton's name and giving him credit as being the originator of steamboat navigation, has "falsified history."

"In his 'An Historical Account of the Application of Steam to the Propelling of Boats,' Livingston's statements," says Mr. Moray, "were immediately and universally accepted as of unquestionable authority. His dictum was venerated with an infallibility often denied to his medieval rival. And yet the statements of that article were atrociously false; they were, under the circumstances, wicked performances for this great statesman, who, with thorough knowledge of the truth, deliberately chose to substitute falsehood."

Mr. Moray's letter is accompanied by a petition to Congress asking that he be given official recognition and that his name and memory be perpetuated by an appropriate bust to stand in Statuary Hall in the Capitol. The petition also tells this story of Rumsey's struggle and triumph with steamboat navigation:

"The deed books of Berkeley county, Va., for the year 1782, record the fact that James Rumsey, a native of Maryland, and Revolutionary soldier, purchased a farm and soon after a pond for experimental purposes in the line of his calling. (He was a millwright.) On that pond, as the result of many experiments in steam and hydrostatics by James Rumsey, the wonderful discovery of the principle of steam navigation took place; a propulsive power till then unknown to the world."

"Through satisfied by continuous experiments that the newly discovered principle would become of immense value in the world, Rumsey contracted with his brother-in-law, Joseph Barnes, for the building of a boat for steam purposes at St. John's Run on the Potomac river."

"The resulting steamboat was publicly exhibited at Shepherdstown, Va., on the Potomac, on December 3 and 11, 1787. The greatest success of the useful character of Rumsey's steamboat was established by sworn testimony of many notable witnesses, including Gen. Horatio Gates, conqueror of Burgoyne, and by a multitude of astonished and delighted spectators."

"This practically successful trial took place twenty years before the Hudson river trial in 1807, and its rate of speed was fully equal to that of the Clermont in its initial trip to Albany—four miles an hour—without sails, paddles, and complexities of the Hudson river boat; as these facts about Rumsey's 1787 boat have been thoroughly proved by sworn testimonies of many reliable eye-witnesses, there should now be no question as to who was the inventor of the steamboat. James Rumsey has undoubtedly proved his right to that honor, and the glory that belongs thereto."

PATCHIN IS HEAD OF NEW DIVISION

Announcement has been made by the State Department of the appointment of Philip H. Patchin, as chief of the newly created division of information of the department. Mr. Patchin will be the press agent of the department, and will call from the departmental correspondence all information the public is entitled to have.

His division to which he recently was attached, is charged with the preparation of material for publication of the foreign relations of the United States, and with the reading of the foreign press, reflecting views on the policy of the United States. In addition Mr. Patchin will collect important diplomatic correspondence, which is printed in the foreign service, and will keep all the embassies and legations posted on any question which is of interest to them.

CLERGYMAN KILLED.

MORRISVILLE, Vt., Sept. 22.—The Rev. George M. Kellogg, who was pastor of the First Congregational church here from 1844 to 1902, was killed by a fall from the roof of a garage which is being constructed at his home. Mr. Kellogg was sixty-two years of age. Since his retirement from the pastorate of the church, seven years ago, he resided in Morrisville.

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## GOV. HARMON, OF OHIO, LOOMS IN LIMELIGHT

His Several Visits to Capital This Fall Will Give Politicians Chance to Look Him Over—Seems Most Likely Democratic Presidential Candidate.

Gov. Judson Harmon, of Ohio, will be in Washington on two or three occasions this fall. He has business before the Interstate Commerce Commission which will bring him, and he will be here at the time of the good roads congress. His visits will give the opportunity for the statesmen and politicians then in the city to study him and make up their minds whether he is of Presidential proportions, as his admirers insist he is.

The death of Governor Johnson of Minnesota, along with other developments, is turning attention more and more to Harmon, and just now he is in the lead for the Democratic nomination in 1912. One thing that is probably serving as much as anything to help along the governor's boom is the hesitancy of the Ohio Republicans in picking a gubernatorial candidate to run against him.

Several prominent Ohio politicians have taken to the political woods when approached on the subject of accepting the nomination. They evidently have feared that it was in the cards that Harmon should be re-elected. And while the Ohio Q. O. P. leaders have been casting about over the situation for months, they apparently have got no nearer than ever to the selection of a man to make the race. This seeming confusion of Harmon's political opponents in his own State has tended to strengthen him both in Ohio and out of it.

Will Be Heard From. Harmon promises under all circumstances to be much in the limelight for months to come and this lends interest to the sort of man he is and why it is he has come to the front in Ohio and national politics. He is the son of a Baptist preacher from one of the small towns in the suburbs of Cincinnati. His family was in moderate circumstances, but he managed to get a fairly good education and to study law. His father was a Republican, but the son deserted that party when Horace

Greeley ran for President. He started in politics by being elected mayor of his town. He got into law practice in successful fashion in Cincinnati and gradually gained a great reputation as a consulting expert.

He is naturally a deep student and it came to be understood in Cincinnati that Harmon's verdict on any matter was pretty apt to be final. How far he was a corporation lawyer is a matter of some dispute. His friends say he was consulted by corporation lawyers as well as others and that he was not a corporation lawyer in the sense generally understood.

Honored in Cincinnati. At any rate, he achieved the honor of a place on the superior court of Cincinnati. To be judge of the superior court of Cincinnati is to get to the top of things in that city, which takes great pride in this particular tribunal. Foraker and William H. Taft served upon it and so did Longworth, senior, as well as other eminent Ohio lawyers.

It was due to his success in the law and on the bench that Grover Cleveland in his second Administration brought Harmon to Washington as his Attorney General. In that capacity he gave good service. He did not do any trust smashing, as that was something practically unknown in these days. He did not support Bryan in 1896, but he supported him since. The relations between Bryan and Harmon are cordial and it is generally understood that Bryan will not oppose Harmon for the Presidential nomination.

As governor of Ohio, Harmon has been popular. He has taken occasion to probe deep into the affairs of the State institutions and effect reforms. The Republican Legislature which he had on his hands for awhile did little and this gave him a chance to lambast it regularly, much to the increment of his strength in the State.

On the whole, the outlook is for his re-election as governor, though Ohio is normally a Republican State.

CHILD-WIFE A SUICIDE. PHILADELPHIA, N. J., Sept. 22.—Mrs. Elizabeth Sigafos Halpin, seventeen years old, committed suicide today by taking strychnine. Domestic trouble was the cause.

Answering the protests of the Poultry Protective Association against the new chicken regulations, Commissioner Macfarland today recommended suspension of action in all cases where owners have been notified by the Health Department to remove their poultry immediately.

Commissioner Macfarland recommends also that a hearing be given the association at the conclusion of the work upon the estimates. At the same time he points out that full opportunity was afforded owners of chickens to present their views during the month the matter was under consideration, as the Commissioner, through the newspapers, invited expressions of opinion as to the regulation before it was adopted.

The Health Department has issued 119 permits to keep chickens within the city limits. A number of applications are on file. All applications must be investigated by the inspectors before permits are issued. The issuance of permits involves considerable work, as the signatures of adjacent property owners to applications to keep roosters must be verified in every instance and the inspectors must ascertain also that the chicken yards and houses are in keeping with the regulations which demand strict cleanliness.

GOOD ROADS PARTY IN PHILADELPHIA

Following an inspection of the highways in and about Washington, the good roads party, composed of representatives of the farmers' unions of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas, have gone to Philadelphia.

B. F. Yeakum, who is in charge of the party, will join it in the Quaker City this morning. The men will be met by the governor and State officials of New Jersey, and conducted on an automobile tour over the roads of that State.

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